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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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AM: DB10045-0598

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ORIGIN RP-10

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 AID-07 INR-10 CIAE-00 COMP-01 DODE-00
H-02 10-14 NEA-06 NSAE-00 HA-06 TRSE-00 OMB-01
INRE-00 AGRE-00 SR-04 /061 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE /CDB/MR

REVIEWED BY *[Signature]* DATE *5/1/81*

FOR THE FOREIGN OFFICE
TO AMEMBASSY
FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: SREF, AF, PK

SUBJECT: U.S. SUPPORT FOR AFGHAN REFUGEE RELIEF

REF: ISLAMABAD 1153

1. WE FULLY AGREE WITH YOUR VIEW ON THE IMPORTANCE OF SIGNALING AN EARLY AND SIGNIFICANT U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO AFGHAN REFUGEE RELIEF AS A MEANS BOTH OF ASSURING THAT PROGRAMS CONTINUE UNINTERRUPTED AND OF STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS' HANDS IN GARNERING ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FROM OTHER DONORS. FOR THIS REASON, WE HAVE BEEN ACTIVE IN ATTEMPTING TO ENSURE SUCH U.S. CONTRIBUTIONS BOTH ON FOOD AND NON-FOOD SIDE AND ARE NOW NEARLY AT A POINT TO ANNOUNCE SOME MOVES. FOLLOWING IS BRIEF BACKGROUND ON STATE OF PLAY ON TWO FRONTS.

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2. FIRST, AID'S FOOD FOR PEACE PROGRAM IS PREPARED TO MAKE A

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COMMITMENT EARLY NEXT WEEK TO WORLD FOOD PROGRAM OF 75,000 METRIC TONS OF COMMODITIES WHICH IS CALCULATED TO MEET FOOD REQUIREMENTS THROUGH JUNE (AT CONSUMPTION RATE OF 25,000 TONS PER MONTH AND ASSUMING PRESENT SUPPLIES WILL LAST THRU MARCH). THIS COMMITMENT HAS ESTIMATED TOTAL VALUE OF APPROXIMATELY DOLLARS 30 MILLION (INCLUDING ABOUT DOLLARS 19.5 MILLION COMMODITY VALUE AND DOLLARS 10.5 MILLION FREIGHT COST).

3. SECOND, THE DEPARTMENT HAS NOTIFIED CONGRESS OF ITS DECISION TO REPROGRAM UP TO DOLLARS 10 MILLION WITH MIGRATION AND REFUGEE ASSISTANCE APPROPRIATION TO FINANCE A U.S. CONTRIBUTION IN SUPPORT OF UNHCR. THIS CONTRIBUTION IS INTENDED TO FUND A U.S. SHARE OF 30 PER CENT OF THE PROJECTED DOLLARS 80 MILLION ANNUAL COST OF THE UNHCR PROGRAM FOR THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF THIS CALENDAR YEAR. WE WILL KNOW BY THE END OF NEXT WEEK OF ANY CONGRESSIONAL OBJECTION. IF THERE IS NONE, WE WOULD THEN BE IN A POSITION TO PLEDGE AND CONTRIBUTE FUNDS UP TO THE DOLLARS 10 MILLION FOR UNHCR, AND WOULD INTEND TO DO SO PROMPTLY. IN THE BELIEF THAT OTHER DONORS WILL THEREBY BE ENCOURAGED TO ANNOUNCE THEIR PLEDGES. HAIG

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